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The British Apollo,

OR,

Curious Amuſements for the INGENIOUS.

To which are added the moſt

Material Occurrences Foreign and Domeſtick.

Perform'd by a Society of GENTLEMEN.

Friday February 13*th*. 1708.

THis Paper will be duely continued on *Wedneſdays* and *Fridays*, according to the Method herein begun; In which we ſhall endeavour to anſwer all Queſtions in Divinity, Philoſophy, the Mathematicks, and other Arts and Sciences, which appear fit and worthy to be anſwer'd; Alſo infert Poems on various Subjects and Occaſions, both Serious and Comical, Compos'd New purpoſely for the Paper; which ſhall be deliver'd at all Perſons Houſes within the Bills of Mortality, who ſhall require it, at two Shillings a Quarter; not to be paid till the End of the Quarter, and to be relinquiſh'd at Pleaſure, and ſuch as ſhall take it within the Quarter, a proportionable Deduction ſhall be made on the following Quarter Day.

All Perſons henceforwards are deſired to Direct their Letters, whether with Queſtions, or for the Paper to be left for them, to the Printer hereof, whoſe Name they will find at the End of the Paper, and to Subſcribe them for the *Britiſh Apollo*.

Advertiſements will be taken at half a Crown a piece (if of moderate length (thoſe from Quacks excepted) by *W. Keble* in *Weſtminſter-Hall*, *Tho. Bickerton* at the *Golden Flower-de-luce* in St. *Paul's Church-Yard*, Booktellers, or by the Men who deliver the Papers; alſo any may leave them at Publick-houſes, who take in this Paper, to deliver them to the Men.

☞ Note, That this Deſign was incourag'd by ſeveral Perſons of Quality and others of the Brighteſt Parts, before it was Publiſh'd, and a great many Subſcribed for it as ſoon as the Propoſals were out.

☞ Note alſo, That where any of theſe ſhall be left, the Bearer will wait upon them the following Day after Publication for their Pleaſure herein. The whole Paper will be New each time it comes out.

The following Queſtions were brought us as ſoon as the *PROPOSALS* came out.

Q. *What is the Cauſe of the Blackneſs in the Negros, and how came that People firſt to be Black?*

A. The moſt accurate of the Modern Anatomiſts have obſerv'd that there is a certain Glue or Varniſh, called by them *Corpus Mucoſum*, immediately under the *Epidermis*, and that in different Animals, or in different Parts of the ſame Animal, being of a different Colour, it imports it to the *Epidermis*, which of its ſelf, is tranſparent. 'Tis then to be ſuppoſed that this Glue or Gelly in the *Negros* is Black. But ſtill the Queſtion will be how came it to be ſo in them and White in us? To which it may be eaſily anſwer'd, That every one naturally begetting its Like, 'tis no wonder the Children of *Blacks* ſhould be Black: And then we muſt come to the latter part of the Queſtion, *viz*. How the firſt Parents of the Black Generation came to be of that Hue? Which is not ſo eaſy to be determined, for to ſay that it was a Puniſhment inflicted upon *Cham* and his Poſterity, is a very groundleſs Suppoſition we rather think that their going Naked in a Climate, where the Sun is extream Hot, did contribute a little to it, by ſcorching as it were the thick Juice aforementioned, as we ſee that Violent Heat of Fire turns Black ſeveral Bodies, we alſo may Conjecture that they might uſe ſome Art to make this Black Colour the Deeper, as 'tis related the *Hotentots*, or Natives of the *Cape of good Hope*, do at this Day, anointing their Children with a Mixture of Soot and Oyl, and ſo expoſe them Naked to the Heat of the Sun: This Hue might be more ſtrongely fixt in them after, by the force of Imagination, by their Women, (when Pregnant) always beholding ſuch. A famous Preſident whereof, we have in Hiſtory, of a White Lady's conceiving a *Black*, from her continual looking on a *Negro's* Picture. Sacred Writ gives us the like Inſtance in Brute Creatures.

Q. *Why the Noiſe of a File, Saw, &c: Sets the Teeth an Edge?*

A. Becauſe the Particles of the Air thus moved into diſagreeable Undulations, and being diſproportion'd to the Pores of the Nerves that are inſerted in the Roots of the Teeth do ſo diſtort and twitch them, that they are either benumm'd or affected with Pain.

Q. *What is the Reaſon, that looking down from any High Place, a Man's Head turns and he is ready to Fall?*

A. Becauſe the diſtance of Objects and the mighty Senſe of Danger ſo exreamly terrifies the Imagination, and creates ſuch a Confuſion and Diſorder amongſt the Spirits in the Brain, that they are altogether incapable of performing their Regular Motions.

Q. *What is the Reaſon that at the ſight of ſome Eatables, a thin Water or Spittle ariſes in the Mouth?*

A. It is cauſed from the Communion of the Nerves of the Eyes and Palate, which ariſe and run along together in One Common Trunck, till they are diſtributed to their reſpective Parts, amongſt which there is a certain Sympathy or Conſent of Action.

Q. *Gentlemen, I have long paſſionately Lov'd a Lady, who for her Excellent Perfections, rather Merits Adoration: I have paſs'd through all the Probationary Injunctions requir'd of a Lover, given my ſelf Violent Aires, then Sigh'd, Whin'd, Pip'd under her Window, lock'd*

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look'd like an Ass, went slovenly, forget to blow my Nose and made Verses; nay, I had certainly attempted to kill my self, but that I fear'd her Consent to it. Now, pray resolve me if this Divine Creature, this Illustrious Goddess in regard to all I have suffer'd for her sake, is not obliged in Gratitude, to return Love for Love?

A. Certainly no——It argues worse than Pagan Stupidity, to expect the Object of our Worship should make Reciprocal Returns, it is sufficient, if she accepts your Offrings, but Presumption to expect so much as Familiar Conference with a Superior Power: Were she convinc'd that you was such another Divine Creature, (of which, your going Slovenly and looking like An Ass, gives us little hopes) She might possibly admit of Parley; but even then would not be under the least Obligation of making mutual Returns, for that wou'd encroach on the Freedom of her Choice, and reduce her to a more servile Condition than your own: Therefore if your Goddess be inexorable, the best Advice we can give, is, to comfort your self with *Epecurus's* Maxim, that your Sufferings cannot be Great and Long: Perhaps She may honour your Ashes with so much Compuction, as to sigh, and say, 'tis Pity——and so call for the Cards.

POEMS.

Apollo's Address to the Town by way of Prologue.

FRighted from Earth by Scenes of Death and Wars
Domestick Strifes and Military Scars,
The mournful Widows Tears, and Orphans Cry's,
And Universal Groans which pierce the Skys,
I left the Globe, in wild Confusion hurld,
Nor spread my Influence, o'er the Ruffled World,
But sweetly row'd my peaceful Hours away,
In the bright Mansions of Eternal Day,
And Greatly shining thro' those blest aboads,
Encreas'd the Knowledge of the Wisest Gods,
Long we neglected Man, and vow'd that He,
No more the Fav'rite of our Realms should be,

But on a sudden, shouts of praise were giv'n,
And UNION *ecchoed to the Gates of Heav'n,*
Each Aweful Being shock'd, look'd down to see,
The unbeliev'd, amazing Prodigy,
And Jove surpriz'd, and pleas'd to see it done,
By Anna's *Deeds, once more to Mortals won,*
Sent me, and all the Gods, to Earth again,
To bless the wondrous worth, of her illustrious Reign,

Hail therefore Happy Sons of Britains *Isle,*
On whom the Pow'rs of Heav'n United Smile,
With Gentle welcome Greet me on your shore,
Nor let me meet the fate, I found before.

The Tenth Muse, &c.

ALL pleasing Ovid *in a strain Divine,*
Soft as his Theam, And Sweet as his Design.
Sings the Dear Cypriah Queen, *A Goddess bright,*
Charming to Sense, and Ravishing to Sight.
With Wounding Passion he describes her Court,
Here Smiling Graces Play, There Cupids *sport:*
In Numbers like their Own, he sings the Nine,
And their own Wit flows sweetly in each Line.
These moving Theams Ovid's *bright Genius fir'd,*
Divine the Poet, and the Muse Inspir'd.
I sing a Goddess equally Divine,
Another Muse, And a New Grace is mine,
And bright as Those at Paphos *do's the Charmer shine.*
In her they all Unite, In her you see,
An Exquisitely Charming Deity.
Wit dwells upon her Tongue, and in her Face,
A killing sweetness, and Majestick Grace,
Successively Maintain each others Place.
Thus in Hortensia *we may justly own,*
The Muses, Graces, Venus, *all in One.*

The following Attack was made upon us the first Day our PROPOSALS came out; since we have enter'd the Lists, we must undertake all Combatants.

Q. Say bold Solutists, solve the Doubt,
Or else expect I'll lay about:
Why each one Shivers when he Pisses,
For so it is with Maids and Misses.
'Tis so with Boys and Girls withal,
With High and Low, with Great and Small,
Nor State, nor Sex, nor Age is free,
Pray what shou'd then the Reason be?
But if you cannot solve this Shaking,
I'll set your very Hearts on Aking,
And Piss upon your Undertaking.

A. What Daring Squire is this, what Mortal,
Who thus Attacks us in the Portal,
That does thus peevishly persist,
As if he had himself Be-pist?
Such Wit as yours, from us, we tell ye,
As easily breaks as Wind from the Belly.
The Reason why you shake in Staling.
(Except you have some other Ailing,
That weakens all your Joynts) is WIND,
Not having Vent through Port behind,
Which the Excretion of the Urine,
(Pray mind me for it is a true thing.)
Protrudes through the Intestine Pores,
Caul, Rim of Belly, and its Stores
Of Muscles, Membrane, then it goes,
Strait to the Membrane Adipose;
And there it agitates the divers,
...I've quite forgot their Name——Oh! Fibres,
This makes you shake, much like *Pick-Pocket.*
By Beadle snapt, or like *French Prophet.*
Your Question, yet is blind to Reason,
(Except you meant to hit the Season)

For

For very few have known this Shaking,
Tho' you might be in ſuch a Taking,
As dreading what you might get by't;
Thus Cowards, Wink and Shake and Fight.
Now Sir altho' you thought to Poſe,
In Doggrel, not ſo ſmooth as Proſe,
You ſee how ſoon our Anſwer flys out,
And ſo you may go *Piſs* your Eyes out.

To an Enrich'd Cobler, being an Imitation of *Martial, Lib.* 9. *Epig,* 74.

THou Late Profeſſor of the Laſt and Awl,
Thou Modern Farmer of a Soraid Stall,
Whoſe Ruſtick Hands, whoſe Eager Teeth and Tongue
Were us'd to bite, and ſtretch the ſtubbourn Thong,
Tranſlated now, doſt Scorn thy Former State,
Command'ſt thy City Houſe and Rural Seat.
To Court, to Park, to Theatres doſt go,
Enjoyſt thy Bottle and thy Miſtreſs too.
But I, by Thoughtleſs Friends Averſe to Trade,
Was ſent to Oxford, *and a Scholar made,*
And what do Grammar Rules advantage me,
Or when will Rhetorick beneficial be?
Away with Books and Muſes, let them rot,
Since more by Cobling than by Reading's got.

Bruſſels, February the *6th.*

THE French continue to augment their Magazens, on their Frontiers, and make great preparations for the next Campaign. That they h ve begun to add New Works to their Fortifications of Liſle, ſeeing the great preparations the Allies are making for an early Campaign, for fear being Beſieged, and at the ſame time that the French Troops, on the Frontiers, are better Paid; than they were before, to put a ſtop to the Deſertion; but thoſe that are Quartered further in the Country, have not been Paid for a long time.

Naples, February the 8th.

The Viceroy had received Orders from King Charles to get all things ready, for the Expedition, againſt Sicily, in which Kingdom, the Imperialiſts, Expect leſſer Oppoſition, than in that of Naples, being aſſured that the Nobility and Gentry in General are in nhe Auſtryan Intereſt. Tis ſaid alſo that the ſaid Viceroy, is preparing a further Sum of Money to be remitted to King Charles, which was Graunted by the States of that Kingdom.

Hague, February the 12th.

We have Advice from Florence, that the Emperors Commiſſary General in Italy, was Arrived there and had Demanded Contributions, of the Great Duke of Tuſcany, for 20 Years paſt at the Rate of 25000 Piſtoles per Annum, which Sum amounting to 500000 Piſtoles, that Prince appeaed very much ſurprzed, and Expects a Conſiderable Abatement.

And from *Baſel,* of the *2d.* that the General Dyet of the 13 Cantons contines Aſſembled at Baſel, without having Terminated the affair of Nauſchatel, and tis ſaid by reaſon of the Deviſions that are among the Deputyes; But in the mean time the Troops of France that have been in Motion in the Franche Comté, and in Alſatia are returned to their former Quarters upou which the Canton of Berne, have alſo withdrawn theirs from the Frontiers of Neufchatel and the Count of Traatſmandorff. The Emperors Miniſter has Publiſhed a Manifeſto, in which he aſſures that his Imperial Majeſty will make Vigorous Efforts, together with is other Allies to maintain the King of Pruſſias poſſeſſion of Neufchatel &c.

We have Letters from *Harwich*, of the *7th.* which ſay that, that Day arrived there a Dutch Boat with an Expreſs from Holland, to the Dutch Ambaſſador here but noe Maile with him and tis not known what is his Commiſſion tho tis not doubted tis for Great and Preſſing Buſineſs. Alſo that a Ship is arrived there from Scotland, and gives an Account of the loſs of ſome Dutch Eaſt India Ships, and others, being part of a Fleet, of 60 Marchaut Men, which is a Confirmation to the other News we had ſome Days agoe from Edenbourough.

They Write from *Portſmouth*, of the *7th.* Inſtant, That the Fleet under Sir. John Leake, Sir. John Norris, and Sir. Whitaker, Sailed hence for the Streights being Joyned with the Dutch Men of War, aud Merchant Ships, which lately arrived there.

On Suuday, laſt Dr. Blackall, and Dr. Trimnell, were Conſecrated Biſhops, and the Conſecration was performed by the Biſhops of London, Sarum, &c. His Grace the Lord Arch Biſhop of Canterbury, who was to perform the ſame being Indiſpoſed.

SHIPS *Arrived at, and Departed from ſeveral Ports of* England, *from* February 3 *to* February 10. 1708.

Falmouth.

Janua. 30. Arriv'd, St. Anthony, St. Cathergua, Bonetta Beneſs, from London, for Venice
31. Greathewt, Cornelius Johnſon, from Burdeaux, for Amſterdam
And ſeveral in Veſſels from Plimouth
Februa. 1. Hubrack, Hubrack Pimpin from Nantz, for Fluſhing
Union Gally, Mayſmore, from London, for Straits
2. Sail'd Aliance Paquet-Boat ——— Hooper for Lisbon
Edenburg-Gally | for the Straits
Briſtol-Gally —— |
Ambuſcade —— |
And Seven Swedes for Lisbon and St. Ubes

Plimouth.

Janu. 31. Arriv'd Union, George Abramſon Juſtice, Iſrael Bromhelm—— | from Reterdam, for France
Eleven Ships for Topſham for Liſbon and Newfoundland

Febru. 2. Sail'd 5 Gallies for Lisbon and Straits
Arriv'd two Ships from Dartmouth for Lisbon
5. Cornelius, Cornelius Johnson, from Nantz

Milford Haven.

1. Arriv'd, Churchill Gally, Thomas Oliver, from Canary
Sail'd Edward and Mary, Globe Gally, Speedwell, Elephant, with their Convoys, bound about Land
And the above Churchill

Portsmouth.

4. Arriv'd the Dutch Fleet from Holland consisting of 60 Sail, bound for Lisbon, &c. and several Ships who joyn'd them from the Downes
6. Sail'd Sir John Leake with the Fleet under his Command, bound for Lisbon, Straits, &c.
Several Ships from Holland, for France

Harwich.

2. Arriv'd Dolphin Pacquet-Boat, from Holland
7. a Dutch Vessel with an Express
Sail'd, Eagle and Prince Pacquet Boats, with Three Mails, for Holland

Aat Deale.

3. Sail'd most of the Outward bound mentioned in my last to be remaining to joyn the Dutch off of the South Sandhead
Remains, Mary and Elizabeth——Coote Providence——Berrey, with Stores for Lisbon
And a Foreigner
7. Arriv'd, Martin Gally——Martin for Ireland
9. Alexander-Gally Loane, Marceillis——Forster-- for Guiny
Page Gally——Hooper, for Legorn
Providence——Markin, for Virginia

Sail'd from Gravesend.

5. Arderon Peals, Jesus Jacobs, White Calf, John Poppis--, Red Lion, Jacob Forgo---, St. John, John Isbrand---, Mereas, Cornelius Jacobson, Three Salmons, John Grandy for Ostend

7. Crown, Thomas Gallop, for Legorn

Arrived at the Post Office, London.

9. At Nine in the Morning, Three Mails, from Ireland

ADVERTISEMENTS.

LOST from a Lady's Side, supposed as coming out of her Coach in the Dark at *St. James's*, a Gold Watch with four Lockets to it, a Seal cut in a Cornelian, a Head in Minature set in Gold, and three Agats, if any brings it to Mr. *Clark* at the Admiralty Office they shall have Five Guineas Reward, and no Questions ask'd.

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